

THE PENNSYLVANIA LESBIAN/GAY SUPPORT NETWORK LETTER

P. O. Box 4031
Allentown, Pa. 18105

The April meeting of the Network will be held on Saturday April 21, at 1:00 in Harrisburg at the Friends Meeting House, Sixth and Herr Sts. A special feature of this meeting is having the representatives of every gay switchboard in the state in an enclave sponsored by the Network. The switchboards will convene themselves with Roger Beatty leading the discussions. Among the topics for the switchboards is a proposal for all of them to adopt a uniform classification system of their calls (which would facilitate the exchange of such information among them and provide a better basis for data to be used by other agencies such as the Council on Sexual Minorities and the Network in their alcoholism project), and the exchange of information switchboards need for their functioning such as accurate bar info across the state. The regular meeting of the Network will be making further considerations of Pride '79, fund-raising, and the National March on Washington.

PRIDE '79 - PROGRESS REPORT

If things keep moving as they have been, Pride '79 promises to be a really exciting event. Pat Bond, the former WAC who took such a leading part in the film, "Word is Out", has been invited to be the the featured entertainer/speaker. Tony Silvestre, Chairperson of the Council on Sexual Minorities is already slated as the keynote speaker.

A planning committee was formed at the last Network meeting composed of volunteers from virtually every corner of the state. Joe Burns and Betty will serve as the chief co-chairs of the planning committee.

A number of decisions were made by the Network on Pride '79. All cameras, media or participant, are forbidden at the conference, and restrictions will be placed on the media representatives, gay and straight, to protect the participants. Other decisions were to provide child-care, and to make provisions for deaf, handicapped, recovering alcoholic, and vegetarian persons.

Participation on this committee is open to all interested parties. Given the tremendous amount of thinking and cooperation needed to plan a successful conference, volunteering YOUR ideas and time for planning is really welcome. Have an idea for a workshop you would like to attend? The planning committee meets in conjunction with the Network.

OFFICERS ELECTED

Philadelphian, George Bodamer was unanimously acclaimed Chairperson of the Network at the March meeting. Joe Burns and Bob Woods agreed to share the responsibilities of Secretary/Treasurer (SEE BELOW). These officers are to serve until November.

A SAD NOTE

We wish to note here that two of the most active and truly supportive members of the Network have announced their retirement from activism. Bob Woods, who literally created the Network out of the ashes of the Rural Gay Caucus and chaired it through its infancy has resigned from the secretarial position to which he was most recently elected. Al Kester, who faithfully kept the Treasury and helped us all in a thousand quiet ways has also expressed his desire to let go of his many duties. Both men cited personal reasons without rancor toward the Network or the people.

These two deserve special mention because they have so often remained busy in the background while others took credit. Thanks in not enough. But THANKS!, anyhow.